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HIGHLIGHTS:

U.S. Turkey Eggs **2004 U.S. Slaughter**
U.S. Milk Production **Agricultural Prices**
Manufactured Dairy Products **2004 Sheep & Lamb Loss**
2004 Utah Honey Production

U.S. Turkey Eggs in Incubators & Poult Placement

Turkey eggs in incubators on March 1, 2005, in the United States totaled 27.9 million, 6 percent below March 1 a year ago. Eggs in incubators were 3 percent above the February 1, 2005 total of 27.0 million eggs. Regional changes from the previous year were: East North Central down 11 percent, West North Central down 2 percent, North and South Atlantic down 10 percent, South Central down 16 percent, and West up 12 percent. The 21.3 million poults placed during February 2005 in the United States were down 7 percent from the number placed during the same month a year ago. Placements were down 3 percent from January 2005. Regional changes from the previous year were: East North Central up 7 percent, West North Central down 9 percent, North and South Atlantic down 8 percent, South Central down 13 percent, and West down 11 percent.

U.S. February Milk Production Down 0.7 Percent

Milk production in the 23 major States during February totaled 12.2 billion pounds, down 0.7 percent from February 2004. However, production was 2.8 percent above last year after adjusting for the leap year. January revised production, at 13.3 billion pounds, was up 1.5 percent from January 2004. The January revision represented an increase of 0.2 percent or 29 million pounds from last month's preliminary production estimate. Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,516 pounds for February, 15 pounds below February 2004. The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.07 million head, 23,000 head more than February 2004, but 9,000 head less than January 2005.

Manufactured Dairy Products

UTAH: Total cheese output (excluding cottage cheese) in January 2005, at 4.4 million pounds, was down 4.3 percent from January 2004, and was down 26.2 percent from December 2004. Hard ice cream production totaled 1.8 million gallons, up 33.5 percent from January 2004 and also up 9.6 percent from December 2004.

UNITED STATES: Total cheese output (excluding cottage cheese) was 754 million pounds, 2.4 percent above January 2004 but 2.4 percent below December 2004. American type cheese production totaled 322 million pounds, 0.1 percent above January 2004 but 0.6 percent below December 2004. Butter production was 126 million pounds in January, 4.6 percent below January 2004 but 9.8 percent above December 2004. Hard ice cream production at 60.4 million gallons, was up 2.1 percent from January 2004, and up 9.4 percent from December 2004.

Manufactured Dairy Production - January 2004-2005 with Comparisons

Product	Utah			United States		
	Jan 2004	Dec ¹ 2004	Jan 2005	Jan 2004	Dec ¹ 2004	Jan 2005
1,000 Pounds						
Total Cheese	4,641	6,017	4,443	735,851	772,247	753,879
1,000 Gallons						
Hard ice cream	1,321	1,609	1,763	59,132	55,182	60,394

¹ Revised.

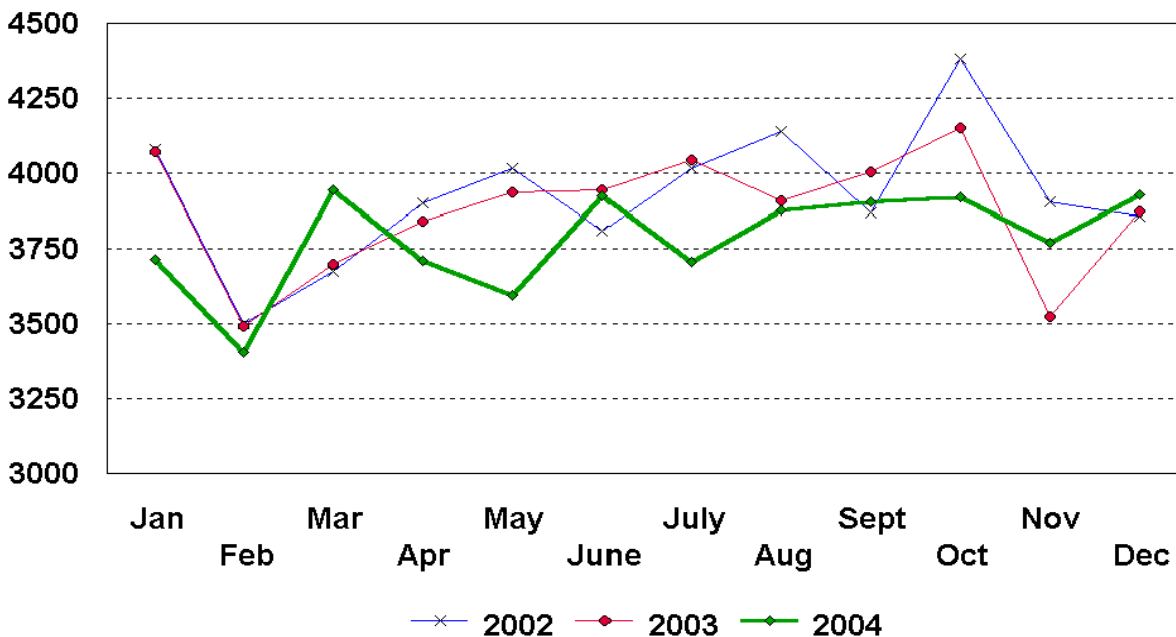
U.S. 2004 Livestock Slaughter

Red meat production for the United States totaled 45.6 billion pounds in 2004, 2 percent below last year. Red meat includes beef, veal, pork, and lamb and mutton. Red meat production in **commercial plants** totaled 45.4 billion pounds. **On farm** production totaled 136 million pounds. **Beef production**, at 24.7 billion pounds, was 6 percent below the previous year. **Veal production** totaled 176 million pounds, down 13 percent from last year, and set a new record low. **Pork production**, at 20.5 billion pounds, was 3 percent above last year, setting a new record high. **Lamb and mutton production** totaled 199 million pounds, falling 3 percent below the previous record low set a year ago. **Commercial cattle slaughter** during 2004 totaled 32.7 million head, down 8 percent from 2003, with federal inspection comprising 98.2 percent of the total. The average live weight was 1,240 pounds, up 9 pounds from a year ago. **Steers** comprised 50.4 percent of the total federally inspected slaughter, **heifers** 32.2 percent, **dairy cows** 7.3 percent, **other cows** 8.4 percent, and **bulls** 1.7 percent. **Commercial calf slaughter** totaled 842,400 head, down 16 percent from a year ago with 97.7 percent under federal inspection. The average live weight was 330

pounds, up 12 pounds from a year earlier. **Commercial hog slaughter** totaled 103 million head, up 3 percent from 2003 with 98.9 percent of the hogs slaughtered under federal inspection. The average live weight was up 1 pound from last year, at 267 pounds. **Barrows and gilts** comprised 96.6 percent of the total federally inspected slaughter. **Commercial sheep and lamb slaughter**, at 2.84 million head, was down 5 percent from 2003 with 94.3 percent comprised by federal inspection. The average live weight was up 2 pounds from 2003 at 136 pounds.

U.S. Monthly Commercial Red Meat Production

Million Pounds



Agriculture Prices

Utah: Mid-February 2005 prices received by Utah farmers and ranchers for barley were down from last month but alfalfa hay and other hay prices were up compared to a month ago.

Barley, at \$1.76 per bushel, was down 34 cents from the previous month's price and 98 cents below last year. Baled alfalfa hay was \$91.00 per ton, \$6.00 higher than last month and up \$13.00 from last year. Other hay, at \$80.00 per ton, was \$5.00 higher than last month and \$14.00 above February 2004.

United States: The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in February, at 113, based on 1990-92=100, is 2 points (1.8 percent) above the January Index. The Crop Index is up 5 points (5.0 percent) while the Livestock Index is down 1 point (0.8 percent). Producers received higher prices for tomatoes, oranges, broccoli, and celery. Lower prices were received for corn, dairy, hogs, and soybeans. The seasonal change in the mix of commodities farmers sell, based on the past 3-year average, also affects the overall index. Increased average marketings of dairy, cattle, broilers, and strawberries offset decreased marketings of corn, soybeans, tobacco, and wheat.

This preliminary All Farm Products Index is down 3 points (2.6 percent) from February 2004. The Food Commodities Index, at 117, is 2 points (1.7 percent) above last month but unchanged from February 2004.

Average Prices Received by Farmers ¹

Commodity	Utah						United States					
	Barley		Alfalfa Hay, Baled		Other Hay, Baled		Barley		Alfalfa Hay, Baled		Other Hay, Baled	
Month	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005
January	2.39	2.10	84.00	85.00	71.00	75.00	2.69	2.42	84.80	90.90	70.20	70.60
February	2.74	1.76	78.00	91.00	66.00	80.00	2.73	2.48	85.10	91.90	72.10	70.00
March	2.59		75.00		62.00		2.77		86.20		72.00	
April	2.72		81.00		70.00		2.78		93.00		75.50	
May	2.71		90.00		75.00		2.78		109.00		78.30	
June	2.51		88.00		80.00		2.63		102.00		76.90	
July	2.42		90.00		80.00		2.54		98.40		70.90	
August	2.30		87.00		80.00		2.79		97.40		70.00	
September	2.05		85.00		78.00		2.43		95.50		65.70	
October	1.96		86.00		80.00		2.29		97.80		68.60	
November	2.39		92.00		88.00		2.51		94.00		67.80	
December	2/		87.00		83.00		2.47		92.40		67.10	

¹ February 2005 is mid-month price. ² Price not published to avoid disclosure of individual firms.

Utah 2004 Sheep and Lamb Losses by Cause

Utah farmers and ranchers lost 48,800 sheep and lambs to all causes in 2004. This was valued at \$3.592 million. **Lambs lost before docking** totaled 19,800, **lambs lost after docking** totaled 18,000 and **sheep one year old and older** lost totaled 11,000. Coyotes accounted for 31 percent of all lambs lost before docking, at 6,100 head. This accounted for the largest single cause of death in

lambs before docking. Coyotes also accounted for the largest number of lambs lost after docking at 9,500, 53 percent of the after docking loss. **Sheep one year old and older** losses to coyotes, at 3,200, was the single largest cause, accounting for 29 percent. Total losses to coyotes equaled 18,800 head, which was 39 percent of all losses to sheep and lambs in the state.

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Utah Honey Production

UTAH: Utah's honey production in 2004 from producers with five or more colonies was 1.6 million pounds. This was 13 percent above the total production for 2003. The total number of colonies, at 23,000, was down 2,000 from the previous year. The average yield per colony was 70 pounds compared with 57 pounds in 2003. Stocks of honey on hand December 15 totaled 531,000 pounds, 374,000 pounds more than 2003. The average price of \$1.04 per pound was down 24 cents from 2003 price. The 2004 honey crop is valued at \$1.7 million, down \$150,000 from 2003.

UNITED STATES: Honey production in 2004 from producers with five or more colonies totaled 184 million pounds, up 1 percent from 2003. There were 2.56 million colonies producing honey in 2004, down 2 percent from 2003. Yield per colony averaged 71.8 pounds, up 3 percent from the 69.9 pounds in 2003. Colonies which produced honey in more than one State were counted in each State where the honey was produced, therefore yields per colony may be understated. Colonies were not included if honey was not harvested. Producer honey stocks were 61.2 million pounds on December 15, 2004, up 50 percent from a year earlier. Stocks held by producers exclude stocks held under the commodity loan program.

Honey Production, 2004 ¹

	Utah 2003	Utah 2004	United States 2003	United States 2004
No. Colonies (000)	25	23	2,599	2,556
Yield per Colony (Lbs)	57	70	70.0	71.8
Production (000 Lbs)	1,425	1,610	181,727	183,582
Stocks (000 Lbs) ²	157	531	40,785	61,222
Avg. Price/Lb (dollars) ³	1.28	1.04	1.387	1.085
Value Production (\$1,000)	1,824	1,674	253,106	201,790

¹ For producers with 5 or more colonies. ² Stocks held by producers December 15, 2004 ³ Prices weighted by sales.

